





**MAGISTERIAL ENQUIRY.**

The inquiry first was the entrance of the firemen with the recent fire at the premises, Blackhead & Co.'s, which was closed by the fire department's Magistrate yesterday morning before Mr. E. Robinson.

F. Schwanzer, recalled, said—I did not go up the doors of the ground locked on the evening of the fire. I left a little early, and Mr. Hohnke went the rounds that night.

J. Northmann, recalled, said—I did not close the site doors of the premises on the night of the fire. I closed the front doors only. Mr. Hohnke went the rounds of the ground that night and the doors of the site were closed. The front doors were closed. There are double doors.

Chan Yow, said—I am employed at Messrs. Blackhead & Co.'s as a coolie. I got the keys

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**MAGISTRACY INQUIRY.**

The enquiry into the circumstances connected with the recent fire at Messrs. Blackhead & Co.'s was resumed at the Magistrary today morning before Mr. E. Robinson.

J. Schwarzkrupf, recalled, said—I did not see the doors of the front door locked, or the windows of the left. A little earlier, Mr. Hohnke went the rounds that night.

J. Northmann, recalled, said—I did not close the side doors of the premises on the night of the fire. I closed the front doors only. Mr. Hohnke went the rounds of the groundward at seven and then told me to lock the front doors, which I did. They are not locked on the side doors. I have not been employed at Messrs. Blackhead & Co.'s as a coplie. I got the keys

east and west doors. The south door has not been opened for a long time. The east door is of iron and is opened and shut by the Westerners. The west door is of wood and is opened and shut daily. Mr. Schwartzkopf and my self usually lock the side doors, but on the evening of the fire Mr. Hohnke did it. The doors were hand-locked. Mr. Hohnke pulled the padlocks to see that all was right and then he went back to his room. He did not go down back to Mr. Hohnke. I don't know what he did with them. I went out just before him and sat down.

Angus Macaulay, P. C. 8, said:—I am assistant foreman of the Fire Brigade. I remember the fire at Mevra, Kachibwa, on the 10th inst. The fire was given at 8:35 p.m. and the Chinese said the fire was just breaking out, hurried along and got there about four minutes later. I saw hydrants and hosiery along.

S.W. about 1000 ft. from the shore. The ground was covered with a thin layer of green, which had unpleasantly strong vanilla-like odor. There was a wire netting and a strong lattice work of wood in front. The lattice work seemed secure and no sign of any entrance seemed to have been made. I saw no smoke and there was no sign of any life. I walked around and there was no slight sound of burning rope. There was no other smell to attract attention. The fire seemed to be in the middle of the ground close to the shore. I did not notice fire in the cook-hold. There was no fire coming out of the funnel. I saw no smoke. I speak of the western side of the gulch. On my return from the western station I found the door on the west wall nearest to the Hotel, opened. It was not shut when I first went but was open on the west side. I did not notice any smoke. I saw no sign of life. I had a peek but not. The firemen were not first to the east side, not to the west but I saw

in the west side before I returned to the stable. One of them was working a horse and the other was standing by the door. I saw them unlock the door in question. I saw all the other doors opened after my return. There was one gentleman inside the doorway of the S.W. door, my return and he remarked to me "This is just the place for a horse, well soon have a horse here." I told him I did not know the gentleman by name. The people of Messrs. Ballantyne & Co. had not arrived then. From press of appearances I think the fire originated near the east door of the potato on the ground floor. The cookpot is right over the door. There were bottles of beer and stout in the room. There were bottles (which I took to contain beer) caused it to burn. A spark might set fire to the straw if it fell on it. His Worship again adjourned the issue till Monday at 2.15 p.m.

**"XEWANG-PAO."**

17th September.

The three notices in regard of the Weinstock lottery still retain their prominent position in the first page.

Leading article on the opium question, advocating the prohibition of the practice of opium smoking, the Editor assuring his readers that even in England the prohibition would meet with strong sympathy.

The Reconstruction Board have made a grant of £10,000 to the family of a lovin officer lately deceased in great poverty, carefully stating that the grant is exceptional and is not to form a precedent.

Notice in the telegraph 20 cities is carefully con-

[illegible]

He had been talking him with some \$200 about to be had been unable to resist to aptation and deoyed him to a quiet place where he shot robbed him, the magistrates is at length induced to send to make enquiries and find out the cause of the robbery. The plundered man is now in the gaol. The magistrates appears to have led to confusion, but the Editor thinks that must have been the spirit of the murdered man that forced him to give himself up.

The Provisional Judge has ordered a general pardon for all persons sitting in judgment on some half-dozen noted robbers, whose fate will probably be taken off shortly.

The examination in Hui-shoo have been postponed, as the students have not all reached Ching-yang.

The Colonel stationed at Hsiang-shan reports to the Viceroy that he has been examining

18th September.

Further notice by the Weising Lot Farmers that they have established branch establishments at the various centres in the province and that private agencies for the lot are not to be allowed.

A leading article advocating the establishment of Degrees for proficiency in shipbuilding, gun founding, military tactics, and other branches of foreign science to encourage progress in this direction, and pointing out that there is no reason why the Chinese in the service in the military examinations of skill in rifle shooting in place of the old and arrow practice.

Further Battery Tax Farm. The Yuen Tung Syndicate farms general public houses, kung-chung, Kachoon, Kachoon, Kachoon, Kung-chung, and Kung-chung for the

Kung-tung farms the tax on blackwood, a nitrate in Canton and Fatsan for \$360, levying 1 per cent on the value of the goods. The tax is levied for packing purposes, and is, in the prefectures of Kiang-chou, and Szechuan for Tls. 2,880, levying 2 per cent on the purchases.

A puff of the Mexican emigration whom we are to expect that it may be possibly restricted from other states that the country is fertile and the climate agreeable, resembling Francisco; that the silver mines there the richest in the world; that Chinese laborers can earn as much as Americans there; that washermen get \$0.25 per piece there and shoemakers do even better; provisions are cheap, pork costing 19 cents a pound and beef 8 cents; that laborers can

A thrilling story is told of a soldier being covered chained down in a boat not far from town, who lashed his hands and feet and lastly his tongue, by some robbers in revenge for his bravery in harassing them. The kidnappers are shown on shore when the man called out, and have been captured.

A part of the Acting Consul of Siao-chi who is said to have been recently attending the criminal Law Chi-pac, recently extradited from Hongkong by executing promptly on his arrival at Siao-chi.

A Roman doctor has discovered in the skulls in the different Etruscan tombs, as well as in the bones deposited in the various museums, the appearance of ancient dentistry.

as far back as six centuries before Christ,  
proves that dentistry is not a modern art.







